



National Science Foundation

Competitive Position Vacancy

ANNOUNCEMENT NO: C20010040

OPEN: 11/08/00

CLOSE: 11/27/00

POSITION VACANT: Computer Specialist, GS-334-5/7/9/11/12. Annual salary ranges from \$23,304 to \$66,564.

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: Computer Specialist, GS-334-12.

LOCATION: Office of Information and Resource Management, Division of Information Systems, Arlington, VA.

BARGAINING UNIT STATUS: This position is included in the Bargaining Unit and will be filled in accordance with the merit staffing provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article VII.

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: All Sources. This position is open to status and non-status candidates, as well as candidates eligible for appointment under special non-competitive appointing authorities.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: The incumbent performs comprehensive analysis, design, and programming and maintenance tasks associated with NSF mission systems. As a member of a development team, the incumbent:

- Conducts interviews with customers to define requirements and concepts of operation.
- Analyzes general requirements. Develops and documents process and data models from functional requirements.
- Implements a systems architecture based on the functional requirements.
- Provides programming support. Develops software and migrates applications to client server. Prepares test plans and test scenarios. Conducts demonstrations and schedules tests as appropriate.
- Develops project plans and implementation schedules. Monitors the successful execution and general performance of software applications. Diagnoses and resolves system failures or transmission errors.
- Conducts system evaluation and reviews the satisfaction of customer requirements.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED: The Qualification Standards Handbook for General Schedule Positions will apply. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. **For the GS-5 level:** Applicants must have 3 years of general experience, 1 year of which was equivalent to at least the GS-4 level which provided the applicant with the basic knowledge of data processing functions and general management principles that enabled the applicant to understand the stages required to automate a work process. Experience may have been gained in work as computer operator or assistant, computer sales representative, program analyst, or other positions that required the use of adaptation of computer program and systems. **OR**, a bachelor's degree where the major studies were computer science, information science, information systems management, mathematics, statistics, operations research, or engineering, or course work that required the development or adaptation of computer program and systems and provided knowledge equivalent to a major in the computer field. **For the GS-7 level:** Applicant must have one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-5 in the performance of tasks such as: translating detailed logical steps developed by others into language codes that computers accept where this required understanding of procedures and limitations appropriate to use of a programming language; interviewing subject-matter personnel to get facts regarding work processes, and synthesizing the resulting data into charts showing information flow; operating computer consoles where this involved choosing from among various procedures in responding to machine commands or unscheduled halts; scheduling the sequence of programs to be processed by computers where alternatives had to be weighed with a view to production efficiency; preparing documentation on cost/benefit studies where this involved summarizing the material and organizing it in a logical fashion. **OR**, one full year of graduate level education

or superior academic achievement. **For the GS-9 level:** Applicant must have one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-7 that demonstrates knowledge of computer requirements and techniques in carrying out project assignments consisting of several related tasks, such as typically is the case in development of minor modifications to parts of a system on the basis of detailed specifications provided. The assignments must have shown completion of the following or the equivalent: analysis of the interrelationships of pertinent components of the system; planning the sequence of actions necessary to accomplish the assignment; and personal responsibility for at least a segment of the overall project. **OR**, two years of progressively higher level graduate education or master's or equivalent graduate degree (such as an LL.B or J.D). **For the GS-11 level:** Applicant must have one year of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-9 that demonstrates accomplishment of computer project assignments that required a range of knowledge of computer requirements and techniques. For example, assignments would show, on the basis of general design criteria provided, experience in developing modifications to parts of a system that required significant revisions in the logic or techniques used in the original development. Accomplishments, in addition to those noted for the GS-9 level, normally involve the following, or the equivalent: knowledge of the customary approaches, techniques, and requirements appropriate to as assigned computer application area or computer specialty area in an organization; planning the sequence of actions necessary to accomplish the assignments where this entailed coordination with others outside the organizational unit and development of project controls; and adaptation of guidelines or precedents to the needs of the assignment. **OR**, three years of progressively higher level graduate education or Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree (such as degree LL.M., if related). **For the GS-12 level:** Applicant must have one year of specialized experience at the GS-11 level which demonstrates accomplishment of computer project assignments that required a wide range of knowledge of computer requirements and techniques pertinent to the position to be filled. This knowledge is generally demonstrated by assignments where the applicant analyzed a number of alternative approaches in the process of advising management concerning major aspects of Automated Data Processing system design, such as what system interrelationships must be considered, or what operating mode, system software, and/or equipment configuration is most appropriate for a given project. **Time-in-Grade Requirement:** For all grade levels completion of one year of service in a position no more than two grades lower than the grade for which you apply.

QUALITY RANKING FACTORS:

For the GS-5/7 levels:

- Knowledge of PC operations and WINDOWS commands, including the ability to troubleshoot common software problems.
- Knowledge of the objective, overall design, and operating principles of automated systems.
- Ability to work with all levels of management and technical personnel.

For the GS-9/11/12 levels:

- Knowledge of data processing functions and software development life cycle stages.
- Knowledge of client server development tools and high-level programming languages and other software tools.
- Knowledge of PC operations and WINDOWS commands, including the ability to troubleshoot common software problems.
- Knowledge of the objective, overall design, and operating principles of automated systems.
- Ability to work with all levels of management and technical personnel.

BASIS FOR RATING: Final ranking is based on an evaluation of your experience, education and training as they relate to the knowledge, skills and abilities specified in the Selective Factor, if any, and the Quality Ranking Factors. Current performance appraisal and awards may also be used in the evaluation process.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT: Appointment to this position is contingent upon successful completion of the appropriate background investigation. Satisfactory completion of a one-year probationary period may also be required.

HOW TO APPLY: You may apply for this position with the *Optional Application for Federal Employment*

(OF-612), the older *Application for Federal Employment* (SF-171), a resume, or other application format of your choice - so long as it contains the necessary information (summarized below). Status candidates must also submit a *Notification of Personnel Action* (SF-50), showing competitive status, and a current Performance Appraisal. In order to ensure full consideration, it is recommended that you submit a supplemental statement, which specifically addresses how your background and experience relate to each Selective and Quality Ranking Factor listed on this announcement.

You must specify the job announcement number, and title and grade(s) of the job for which you are applying. You should also provide the following information: • Your country of citizenship. • Your social security number. • Information about your education, including (1) high school graduation date and (2) college/university information - your major, and type and year of degree(s). If no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours. • Information about all your work experience related to this job, including job titles, duties and accomplishments, employer's name and phone number, number of hours worked per week, starting and ending dates (month and year), and annual salary. If you held various positions with the same employer, describe each separately. • If you have Federal civilian experience, indicate the highest grade held, the job series, and dates held. • The brochure *Applying for a Federal Job* provides information on the Federal job application process; it is available by calling the number listed below. **If your application does not provide all the information requested in the vacancy announcement, you may lose consideration for this job.**

Status candidates who wish to be considered under both merit promotion and delegated competitive examining procedures must submit two complete applications. If only one application is received, it will be considered under the merit promotion program.

Applicants who are eligible for appointment under special non-competitive appointing authorities must clearly specify specific eligibility and provide proof with application. Otherwise, the application will be considered under competitive procedures.

The National Science Foundation provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the point of contact listed on this vacancy announcement.

Applicants applying for special selection priority under the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program must submit proof of eligibility (i.e., RIF separation notice, *Notification of Personnel Action* (SF-50) stating you were separated by RIF, OR a letter from your agency documenting your special selection priority status); copy of your current performance appraisal; and documentation of promotion potential in the position from which separated. To be determined well qualified to receive special selection priority for this position, you must meet all qualification and eligibility requirements, all selective factors, and be rated at the above average level or higher in each quality-ranking factor.

Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after three years or more of continuous active service may apply. Veteran candidates should attach a copy of your DD-214; and, if applicable, *Application for 10-Point Veteran's Preference* (SF-15), along with documentation specified on the form. (This is not necessary for status candidates for consideration under merit promotion procedures).

Submit all application material to National Science Foundation, Division of Human Resource Management, 4201 Wilson Boulevard, Room 315, Arlington, VA 22230. Attn: Announcement Number C20010040. In addition to the required application materials, you are asked to complete and submit the attached Applicant Survey form. Submission of this form is voluntary and will not affect your application for employment. The information will be used for statistical purposes only. **ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CLOSING DATE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.** For additional information call Madalyn Chisley on (703) 292-4350. Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD (703) 292-8044.

**NSF IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER COMMITTED TO EMPLOYING A
HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF THAT REFLECTS THE DIVERSITY OF OUR NATION.**

**NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
APPLICANT SURVEY**

**OMB No. 3145-0096
Expiration: August 2002**

Vacancy Ann. #: _____

Position Status (temporary/permanent): _____

Position Title/Series/Grade: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Your completion of this form will be appreciated. Submission of this Information is voluntary and it will have no effect on the processing of your application. The data collected will be used only for statistical purposes to ensure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Pursuant to 5 CFR 1320.5(b), an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0096. NSF estimates that each respondent should take about 3 minutes to complete this survey, including time to read the instructions. You may have comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this survey, including suggestions for reducing this burden. If so, please send them to NSF Reports Clearance Officer, Division of Administrative Services, NSF, 4201 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA. 22230.

PRIVACY ACT INFORMATION

GENERAL - This information is provided pursuant to Public Law 93-579 (Privacy Act of 1974), December 31, 1974, for individuals completing Federal records and forms that solicit personal information.

AUTHORITY - Section 7201 of title 5 of the U.S. Code and Section 2000e-16 of title 42 of the U.S. Code.

PURPOSE AND ROUTINE USES

The information is used for research and for a Federal Equal Opportunity Recruitment Program (FEORP) to help insure that agency personnel practices meet the requirements of Federal law. Address questions concerning this form and its uses to the Privacy Act Officer, National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA 22230.

1. Today's Date: _____

2. Year of Birth: _____

3. How did you learn about the particular position for which you are applying? (Circle appropriate number.)

01 - Newspaper (specify)

10 - Federal, State or local job information center

02 - Contact with NSF Personnel Office

11 - State vocational rehabilitation agency or

(Agency Bulletin Board or other Announcement)

Veterans Administration

03 - NSF-initiated personal contact

12 - State employment office

04 - Science Magazine, or other professional journal or magazine

13 - School or college counselor or other official

(specify)

14 - Private job Information service

05 - Affirmative Action Register

15 - Private employment service

06 - Attendance at conference, meeting or job fair

16 - Friend or relative working at NSF

(specify)

17 - Friend or relative not working at NSF

07 - NSF recruitment at school or college

18 - NSF website

08 - Colleague referral

19 - Internet or other website

09 - NSF Bulletin

20 - Other (specify)

4. Please select the racial/ethnic category with which you most closely identify yourself. (Circle the appropriate letter)

A. **American Indian or Alaskan Native.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North America, who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community recognition.

B. **Asian or Pacific Islander.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes, for example, China, India, Korea, the Philippine Islands, and Samoa.

C. **Black, not of Hispanic origin.** A person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. This does not include persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish cultures or origins.

D. **Hispanic.** A person of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race.

E. **White, not of Hispanic origin.** A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, North Africa or the Middle East. This does not include persons of Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, or other Spanish cultures or origin.

5. Sex (Circle the appropriate letter.) F - Female M - Male

6. Please provide Information on your disability status by circling the appropriate category below:

1. I do not have a disability; 2. Hearing impairment; 3. Vision impairment; 4. Missing extremities; 5. Partial paralysis; 6. Complete paralysis; 7.

Convulsive disorder; 8. Mental retardation; 9. Mental or emotional illness; 10. Severe distortion of limbs and/or spine; 11. I have a disability but it is not listed.

FOR AGENCY USE

Agency Code: _____

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER